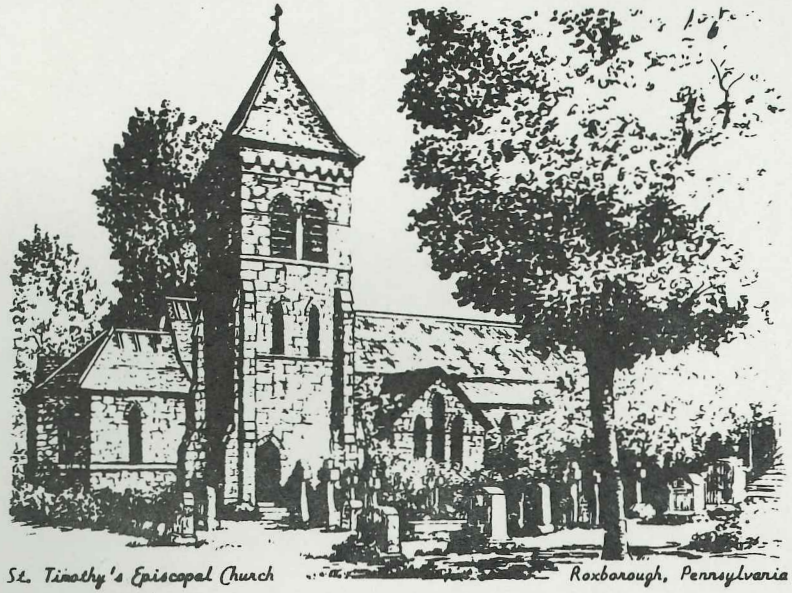

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church ... Roxborough, Pennsylvania

Saint Timothy's Church, Roxborough

Ridge Avenue, West of Walnut Lane
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

PARISH PROFILE 1992

Catholic Worship + Gospel Preaching + Evangelical Spirit

ST. TIMOTHY'S CHURCH
ROXBOROUGH

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to Worship God as a corporate body. To reach out in loving service to each other, and to those in need. This mission requires:

WORSHIP

STUDY

FELLOWSHIP

PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

These activities require a dedicated ministry of laity and clergy.

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PREFACE

Saint Timothy's Church, Roxborough, is located in the Northwest section of the city of Philadelphia. The church was established in 1859 and since that time has maintained strong Anglican traditions and liturgy. We have a rich spiritual heritage and many loyal and caring people of all ages and talents ready to be actively involved in Parish life. We own beautiful and valuable properties and artifacts which define our history, enhance our Parish life and worship, for the glory of God and Our Lord Jesus Christ.

This profile has been developed to describe and define our parish and to identify our mission for the twenty-first century.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. TIMOTHY'S

Roxborough was primarily a rural area in 1859 when the Wissahickon Sunday School was formed. Several of the summer residents were concerned about the religious education of their children, and feeling the existing local churches were too distant, formed a Sunday School. The following year the Sunday School had grown to forty pupils. The adults decided to have a Sunday afternoon service and, from this beginning, St. Timothy's church grew.

The first Rector, the Reverend Mr. McKim, was selected due to his belief in a "Free Church" system as well as his anglican affiliations. These concepts have continued through the history of St. Timothy's.

During the Civil war and the years following, St. Timothy's Church was built. The congregation did not limit itself to providing for the spiritual health of its members, but also for the welfare of the community. In the depression following the Civil War, the parish provided food and employment for those who were unemployed because of the failure of the textile mills. The parish operated a food kitchen and hired women to prepare the food.

On Whitsunday, June 1, 1873, the parish voted to abolish pew rentals once and for all. Thus the Church became part of the "Free Church" system. Membership and contributions increased significantly.

As conditions improved and the textile mills reopened, an influx of immigrants from England and Wales led to the formation of a night school

and Workingmen's Institute. Child labor laws had not yet been enacted, so education provided by this school was doubly important. A library and Social Club was also founded. These services were available until changes in the community made them obsolete.

Another major project of the parish was St. Timothy's Memorial Hospital and House of Mercy, established in response to the needs of a growing community. This was the origin of the present Roxborough Memorial Hospital.

Much of the expansion and good works of the parish would have been more difficult without the personal and financial support of the Merrick family, in whose memory a Celtic Cross stands in the Churchyard. Their name, and those of many early members of the parish, continue their presence in the community; Ogle, Livezey, Ripka and Merrick Streets are all named for these families. Many others, less prominent but no less important, labored to make St. Timothy's the Church it is today.

During the following years, St. Timothy's has continued to play a prominent part in the life of the community by taking part in the Fourth of July Parade, sponsoring Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troops and conducting a Pre-School and Day School. However, as in other parishes, attendance and congregational involvement have faltered. The most recent of our parish projects were the adopting of a Native American child and sponsoring a church in Appalachia, at Barnes Mountain, Kentucky.

Currently, most of our congregational outreach is financial. Requests for funds are made to the Vestry, and they respond with support, according to the needs of the project. However, many members of the parish are personally involved in various charitable efforts such as F.I.S.H., North Light Community Center and others.

CHURCH PROPERTIES

The church property covers approximately four acres. It is surrounded, on all sides, by a stone wall and the churchyard includes a burial ground. The lich gate at the main drive was constructed in 1882.

The church, of Victorian architecture, was designed by the noted New York architect, Emlen T. Littell. It was built in 1862 and there have been two additions to the nave to accommodate an increasing congregation. The 1874 addition included a baptistery and the lantern tower was part

of the 1885 expansion. Presently the church seats 500. A bell tower, which houses twelve bells, built in 1871, and a unique roof of red and black slate are two special features of the church.

Inside the church are three altars, the High Altar in the sanctuary, St. Michael's Altar in the left chancel area and the Lady Altar in the right chancel area. The illuminated ceiling was recently restored to display the original artwork which had been dulled over the years by incense and candle soot. The present pipe organ, known as the "Bicentennial" organ was installed in 1975.

St. Timothy's is one of only three remaining Philadelphia buildings with functional gas lights. The other two are the Academy of Music and the Philadelphia Gas Works building. The lamps are lit on Christmas Eve. Last year the Philadelphia Gas Works featured Saint Timothy's lamps in a photographic story in their company publication.

The Parish House, also designed by Mr. Littell, and including the same style slate roof, was erected in 1874 and enlarged during the 1885 expansion. The church and Parish House are joined by a covered wooden porch on the North and enclosed walk-through on the West. On the upper level there are a large meeting room for approximately 200 people, the church office, a smaller meeting room with a kitchenette, a choir room and a vesting room for the choir and acolytes. Downstairs there are a nursery room (where children three and under are cared for during the 10:00 a.m. service), a kitchen with full facilities, and three classrooms used by the Sunday School, the Day School, and other organizations needing space.

The sexton's house is a small two-story, slate-roofed building erected in 1901. It was renovated in 1991 and is in good repair.

The Rectory is a two-story, slate-roofed structure erected in 1924. On the first floor are the Rector's office with lavatory, a living room, dining room, pantry, kitchen and back porch. A side porch is heated and useable year round. Upstairs there are four bedrooms, one with a fireplace, and three bathrooms. There is a full basement with adequate storage. The Rectory is presently being renovated in anticipation of a new Rector.

SAINT TIMOTHY'S TODAY

At this time St. Timothy's Church, Roxborough has five hundred

twenty-six baptized members. There are four hundred sixty-three members over the age of sixteen. There are three hundred eighteen confirmed communicants who for the previous year have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the kingdom of God. Thirty-two of those members are under the age of sixteen. Last year there were thirteen baptisms, sixteen persons were confirmed and two were received by the Bishop. There were six marriages performed and seven burial services for members of our congregation.

Currently, St. Timothy's Church has two Sunday services. We have an 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I service and a 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist, Rite I service with Sunday School. Last year there were one hundred four Sunday Holy Eucharist services and one hundred fifty-six Holy Eucharist weekday services. Average Sunday attendance for the year for both services was one hundred twenty-six persons. Easter Sunday 1992 we had attendance at both services of 253.

Vital to our parish life and the mission of Saint Timothy's are the varied contributions of our dedicated support personnel.

Carl Knapp, Vocational Deacon, is actively involved in all aspects of Parish life. His participation in worship services, preaching, and assistance with acolytes adds a warm dimension. In particular, he is a welcomed and comforting visitor to those who are hospitalized, in nursing homes, or otherwise shut-in.

T. Norwood Collins is the knowledgeable and talented musician who has faithfully served St. Timothy's for many years as organist and choirmaster. Under his direction the choir presents liturgical music which richly enhances worship services.

We are blessed to have Sister Ellen Elizabeth and Sister Jane Theresa of the All Saints Sisters. They travel from Saint Anna's Home in Center City to participate in worship, Christian Education, and to visit those who are hospitalized. Their dedication and caring are appreciated.

The sexton, Robert Kernaghan, lives on the church property and, in addition to his prescribed duties, is readily available to help parish organizations and activities. Maintaining the churchyard, itself, is a major responsibility.

The dedicated help of our secretary, Betty Platchek is greatly appreciated. In just fifteen hours a week she maintains communications,

prepares letters and newsletters and helps to keep the "loose ends" tied together. She has been a major support in preparing the Parish Survey and Profile.

Many parishioners support parish liturgical life through their dedicated Lay Ministry. There are seven licensed chalice bearers and seven regular lay readers. Twenty dedicated acolytes are prepared to appropriately assist the clergy at the altar.

The wardens and vestry serve faithfully. They chair standing committees and involve other parishioners in completing committee projects. The present vestry is a comfortable blend of parishioners of long standing, some relatively recent members, and young persons raised in the church. St. Timothy's is regularly represented in the Wissahickon Deanery and the Diocesan Convention.

CHURCH FINANCE

The present economy — decreased investment returns, increased economic pressures on young families and on those on fixed incomes, and increased parish expenses — have changed the pattern of support for church operations.

In the recent past a major portion of yearly expenses was met through congregational contributions, supplemented by investment interest. In 1991 contributions provided about thirty-one percent of the operating income, fifty-nine percent was from investments and endowments, and about ten percent from other sources.

As St. Timothy's enters this new era of clergy and lay ministry we expect that a renewed understanding of personal and financial stewardship will increase congregational participation and contributions.

Information concerning recent membership, attendance, and finances is available upon request.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Our Christian Education Program for children and youth takes place on Sundays from September through June during the 10:00 a.m. service. Children worship with their families until just before the sermon, then leave the church to attend their classes until the conclusion of the church service.

There is a nursery for children under the age of four, a primary class for ages four to six, an intermediate class for students seven to nine, a junior high class for students ten to thirteen, and senior high class for students fourteen to eighteen. Enrollment for the entire program is currently 50 students under the direction of 9 teachers and leaders.

Special projects throughout the year have included a "Homecoming" magic show, a Halloween party, a Thanksgiving food collection, Christmas carolling at a local retirement home, making advent wreaths, sending Christmas gifts to charity, an Easter egg hunt, and a trip to the Philadelphia Zoo.

Vacation Bible School is conducted near the end of August each year. The one week program emphasizes bible stories, songs, and crafts. It is held at St. Timothy's in cooperation with a nearby Lutheran Church. Enrollment last year was approximately 70 students.

Adult education has been conducted in the past in the form of Bible study conducted on Monday evenings after the 7:00 p.m. communion service. This series was discontinued at the time of the Rector's retirement. A special lenten lecture series/pot luck supper was held for five consecutive Wednesday evenings. Average attendance was 24 persons. Presently an inquirer's class is being conducted by the Interim Rector on Sunday afternoons.

ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CHURCH

The acolytes of St. Timothy's Church (torch bearers and servers) are trained in the catholic tradition of reverence and faithfulness in serving under close supervision with follow-up training. Activities, other than serving, consist of a spring breakfast and an outing each Fall.

The Altar guild at St. Timothy's is a group of women dedicated to preparation of the Church for worship, providing for the furnishing and decoration of the Altar, taking reverent care of the appointments, and furnishing and caring for the vestments of the clergy. Such details as dusting, polishing the brasses, arranging flowers, and ordering and caring for supplies are presently lovingly accomplished by just 4 members of the guild. New members are needed.

The Bell Ringers are 7 in number. The chimes are rung before the

Choral Eucharist on Sundays and festivals and at other special times.

The choir at St. Timothy's was started in 1876 as the Men and Boys Choir. Due to changing lifestyles and neighborhood demographics, the choir began admitting females in 1982. The choir presently is a highly trained adult choir numbering 11 members, 2 of whom are female. The choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist from September to mid-June and at Special Lenten and Advent celebrations. Practice currently is held before the ten o'clock Sunday mass.

Daughters of the King, the oldest order of women in the Episcopal Church, conducts regular monthly meetings (second Sunday at 12:30) for the purpose of worship, prayer, study and service. the Lois-Eunice Chapter at St. Timothy's is the only Daughters of the King chapter in the area and all women of the Episcopal Church are welcome.

The Mary-Martha Guild is a group of women organized to raise funds for many specific needs and for the beautification of St. Timothy's Church. This has been accomplished first by preparing lunches for the day school children and then continued through the sale of hand crafted items throughout the year.

While there is no active Episcopal Young Churchmen (EYC) group at St. Timothy's at the present time, there have been such groups at various times in the past, and we hope that this function can be reactivated.

In addition to the organizations at St. Timothy's Church the following groups are affiliated with the church in different ways:

A representative of St. Timothy's attends the Church Periodical Club (CPC) whose purpose is to supply reading material (including hymnals, prayer books, Bibles) and other study materials to seminarians, missions and missionaries. Collections from the Tuesday a.m. service (augmented by the Church) go towards the support of CPC and the South American Missionary Society (SAMS).

A Parish Day School was conducted here from 1873-1883. In 1943, a Day School was again started and has continued to the present time under various Rectors and teachers. In 1962 a Nursery School was started and expanded to include kindergarten, both of which were terminated in 1990. Because of reduced enrollment the Day School will be closing at the end of '91-'92 term.

Friends in Supplying Help (F.I.S.H.) was formed in 1969 in conjunction with churches of all religious denominations in the area. Their main functions are supplying emergency food to people in need, and driving people to hospitals, doctor's offices and clinics for treatment. In 1985 F.I.S.H. merged with North Light Communicty Center. Task force meetings are held twice a year and there is ongoing communication between NLCC, the food coordinator (a member of the parish), the treasurer and transport volunteers. St. Timothy's members respond generously to request for replenishment of the food cupboard.

A chapter of Gamblers Anonymous meets weekly in the Parish House.

Community College of Philadelphia uses the Parish House facilities for classes during Spring and Fall semesters.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The Roxborough-Manayunk area is in the northwest section of Philadelphia. Residents have an unusual loyalty to their neighborhood, giving it a small town feeling. Family values and a strong sense of belonging characterize the community. The last census showed a mixture of foreign born and second and third generation mixed ethnic heritages, predominately German, Irish, English, Italian, and Polish.

The last census showed a slight decrease in the population of the area. The median age of the residents was 35.4 years. The area as a whole had a slightly older population than the rest of the city. The residents are predominately Caucasian home owners with at least a high school education. The last census revealed that fifty-three percent of the population were white collar workers. The projected median income for the 1990's was $39,340. The unemployment and public assistance figures were each below eight percent in the 1980's.

The area offers a variety of small businesses, a hospital, a community mental-health/mental-retardation organization (including senior citizen services), a number of civic organizations, a variety of public and parochial schools, and good public transportation to center city Philadelphia and to the surrounding suburbs.

During the past ten years, the Manayunk area has been revitalized. New businesses such as restaurants, art galleries, and novelty shops, as well as upscale apartment buildings, line Main Street and an historic

canal. Annual events like the CoreStates Bike Race, Canal Day and the Manayunk Arts Festival, have helped give the area a trendy atmosphere. This has resulted in an influx of new residents and rising property values.

The area is bordered by the Schuylkill River, Wissahickon Creek and the ever lovely Fairmount Park which provide year round recreational opportunities for hiking, jogging, biking, fishing, and horseback riding.

Downtown Philadelphia, only minutes away, offers a world class art museum, orchestra, and ballet. Other museums, professional sports teams, the country's oldest zoo, and an abundance of historical sites and architectural wonders are readily accessible. Philadelphia is also known for its many colleges and universities. It is the location of some of the best teaching hospitals in the country, and many outstanding medical facilities.

PARISH SURVEY SUMMARY

One hundred-ninety-two questionnaires were analyzed. Forty-three percent of those responding were male and fifty-seven percent female. Ninety-two percent considered themselves members of Saint Timothy's, fifty percent for more than 20 years. Forty-five percent live one mile or less from the church. In fact, family tradition and location were primary reasons for attending Saint Timothy's. Although most respondents are married (67%), a significant number are single (19%) or widowed (12%).

Fifty percent indicated that they attend church weekly and thirty-four percent two to three time a month. About forty-one percent prefer the 8:00 a.m. service because it is shorter, with less ritual, and allows an early start to the day, especially for those with work or other commitments later in the day.

The most prevalent reasons given by the more than fifty-three percent preferring the 10:00 a.m. service were that Sunday School is also at that time, that there is music and the choir, and that the service is a traditional sung mass. The five percent who attend Monday evening service do so because they work on Sunday, the service is shorter or they liked the healing service when it was offered.

Most respondents (46.5%) prefer that only Rite I be used and 25.6% want services to be predominatly Rite I. However, twenty-two percent would like a balance of I and II. Some requested that parishioners have

a choice of service, including 1928 prayer book, for personal sacraments i.e., wedding, burial.

Eighty-seven percent want to receive communion every Sunday and sixty percent prefer "high church" liturgy and tradition, but many request that we use incense only on Feast Days. The questionnaire, however, did not identify whether these preferences were for one service or for both.

There was considerable support for the work of the choir and the importance of music in the liturgy. However, there were strong feelings about the need to increase congregational participation in the service by using more familiar hymns and by not singing important prayers in which the congregation should participate. Respondents were almost evenly divided about maintaining the choir as it exists or expanding it to all who apply.

The present Christian education program for children has considerable support. But many persons identified a need for more adult education, especially discussion groups.

The qualities necessary for a Rector most frequently expressed, far ahead of others, are those of a worship leader, preacher, and leader of services, and one who focuses on pastoral care, counseling and Bible-focused spiritual guidance and nurturing. Many expressed a desire for a Rector who sincerely likes people and who would be committed to visit parishioners, the sick and confined.

In response to the question about how long a Rector should stay, the majority indicated that a person could continue in the position as long as the working relationship with the parish remains positive. Several respondents indicated that there should be an evaluation at five and ten years to assess the Rector's effectiveness and to determine a continued contract. Fifty-four percent would welcome more lay ministry activities, especially readers, chalice bearers, and acolytes. However, some respondents felt strongly that Priests, Deacons, acolytes, chalice bearers and lay readers should be male.

The primary parish goal identified was to improve congregational communication. Statistically, this was a greater need than any of the others listed. Publishing of the Vestry minutes was described as a good start toward achieveing this goal.

Respondents indicated a need to increase youth programs and to expand the Sunday School program. The church should become a more

caring, spiritually nurturing, Christian community with more involvement of members in all activities. Many identified that advance planning and notice of activities might increase participation. There is also a need for volunteers, including young people, to call and visit the ill and shut-ins. There were 180 indications of interest in participating in parish activities. These may not be 180 separate persons, but the committee recommends follow-up to enlist this support.

In response to the concern about attracting more people to Saint Timothy's, many indicated that we need to develop a more friendly atmosphere, one which helps people feel comfortable and at home and which promotes a feeling of friendship.

There is a need for social activities for all ages, but especially to attract and retain young familiies. We need to follow up on visitors, and to find out why people have left the church. The clergyman we select should communicate effectively, listen well, and be truly dedicated to the people of the Parish, to Parish traditions and values, to the worship and service of the Lord Jesus Christ.

LOOKING TO THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

As Saint Timothy's begins this new era of ordained and lay ministry, we look forward to opportunities for growth and the strengthening of Christian values. Our plan is to improve congregational communications and interactions in order to foster an atmosphere of Christian love, acceptance and community. We want to attract new members and welcome back those who have left.

Adult and youth Christian Education programs will be expanded to provide an understanding of our spiritual heritage, a knowledge of the teachings of Jesus Christ and a strong spiritual guide in the complexities of the modern world.

We expect more personal and financial committement to the parish, more planned community outreach programs, and more parish activities which help individuals and families feel a part of the parish family, the community and the Body of Christ.

Overall, Saint Timothy's has the resources and talents to become a major force in community spiritual and social life. Our commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ, to our parish members, and our Anglican heritage are major forces in the present and future vitality and growth of this parish.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Roxborough

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Parish Profile
2002

Parish Office

Phone: 215 483-1529

Fax: 215 483-4476

www.geocities.com/sttimothys1859.

St. Timothy's Church
Roxborough

Mission Statement

Our mission is to worship God as a sacrament-centered community. Our common life is shaped and guided by a rich liturgical tradition. We emphasize the continual formation of Christian faith among all people, clergy and laity, young and old. We seek to form an abiding connection with, and service to, the world around us.

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PREFACE

St. Timothy's Church, Roxborough is located in the northwest section of the city of Philadelphia. The church was established in 1859. Since that time the parish has maintained a sense of traditional Anglican style liturgy while welcoming openness to the fullness of worship experience offered in the Book of Common Prayer. We maintain significant and valuable properties that define our history, support our congregational and community lives, and provide settings open to varied styles of worship for the glory of God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

STRENGTHS AND INTERESTS DESIRED IN OUR NEXT RECTOR

The qualities necessary for a Rector most frequently expressed were those of a Spiritual Guide, Celebrant and Liturgist, and Counselor/Healer, and one who focuses on pastoral care, counseling and Bible-centered spiritual guidance and nurturing. Many expressed a desire for a Rector who would be committed to visit parishioners, the sick, and the confined.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. TIMOTHY'S

Roxborough was primarily a rural area in 1859 when the Wissahickon Sunday School was formed.

Several of the summer residents were concerned about the religious education of their children and, feeling the existing churches were too distant, formed a Sunday School. The following year the Sunday School had grown to forty pupils. The adults decided to have a Sunday afternoon service and, from this beginning, St. Timothy's Church grew.

The first Rector, The Reverend John Leighton McKim, was selected due to his belief in a "Free Church" system as well as his Anglican affiliations. These concepts have continued through the history of St. Timothy's.

During the Civil War and the years following, St. Timothy's Church was built. The congregation did not limit itself to providing for the spiritual health of its members, but also for the welfare of the community. In the depression following the Civil War, the parish provided food and employment for those who were unemployed because of the failure of the textile mills. The parish operated a food kitchen and hired women to prepare the food.

On Whitsunday, June 1873, the parish voted to abolish pew rentals once and for all. Thus the Church became part of the "Free Church" system. Membership and contributions increased significantly.

As conditions improved and the textile mills reopened, an influx of immigrants from England and Wales led to the formation of a night school and Workingman's Institute. Child labor laws had not yet been enacted, so the education provided by this school was doubly important. A library and social club were also

founded. These services were available until changes in the community made them obsolete.

Another major project of the parish was St. Timothy's Memorial Hospital and House of Mercy, established in response to the needs of a growing community. This was the origin of the present Roxborough Memorial Hospital, which is celebrating its 100th year of continuous service to the community.

Much of the expansion and good works of the parish would have been more difficult without the personal and financial support of the Merrick family, in whose memory a Celtic Cross stands in the Churchyard. Their names, and those of many early members of the parish, continue their presence in the community; Ogle, Livezey, Ripka, and Merrick Streets are all named for these families. Many others, less prominent but no less important, labored to make St. Timothy's the church it is today.

During the ensuing years, St. Timothy's has continued to play a prominent part in the life of the community. For over eighty years, the parish has participated in the annual Fourth of July parade, originated by community churches and church school programs. St. Timothy's has in the past sponsored Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, a preschool program, and an elementary school program. Some current parish projects are the adoption of a child through the Christian Children's Fund and support for a church in Appalachia.

CHURCH PROPERTIES

The church property covers approximately four acres. It is surrounded on all sides by a stone wall and the churchyard includes a burial ground. The lych gate at the main drive was constructed in 1882.

The church, of Victorian architecture, was designed by the noted New York architect, Emlen T. Littell. It was built in 1862 and there have been two additions to the nave to accommodate an increasing congregation. The 1874 addition included a baptistery. The lantern tower was part of the 1885 expansion. Presently, the church seats 350. A bell tower, which houses twelve bells, built in 1871, and a unique roof of red and black slate are two special features of the church. The roof was replaced in 1994, maintaining the original specifications, and the bells are currently being renovated.

Inside the church are three altars, an east facing High Altar in the sanctuary, an altar dedicated to St. Michael on the Gospel side and an altar dedicated to Our Lady on the Epistle side. Behind the high altar is a mosaic reredos depicting Christ enthroned, flanked by prophets and saints. The illuminated ceiling was restored in 1991 to display the original artwork which had been dulled over the years by incense and candle soot. The present pipe organ, known as the "Bicentennial" organ was installed in 1975. The console was replaced in 2000. Tonal revisions are planned for the future.

St. Timothy's is one of only three remaining Philadelphia buildings with functioning gaslights. The other two are the Academy of Music and the Philadelphia Gas Works Building. The lamps are lit on Christmas Eve and other special occasions. The added beauty these gaslights provide to the liturgy is a source of pride to us as a community.

The Parish House, also designed by Mr. Littell, and including the same style slate roof as the church, was erected in 1874 and enlarged during the 1885 expansion. The church and the Parish House are joined by a covered wooden porch on the North and an enclosed walk-through on the West. On the upper level there are a large meeting room for approximately 200 people, the church office, a library with kitchenette, a choir room, and a vesting room for the choir and acolytes. Downstairs, there are a nursery room where children three and under are cared for during the 10:30 a.m. service, a kitchen with full facilities, and three classrooms used by the Sunday School and other organizations needing space. The bathrooms on both levels were recently completely renovated and now comply with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

The sexton's house is a small two-story, slate roofed structure erected in 1901. It was renovated in 1991 and is in good repair.

The attractive rectory is a two-story, slate roofed structure erected in 1924. On the first floor are the Rector's office with lavatory, a living room, dining room, pantry, kitchen, and back porch. A side porch is heated and useable year round. Upstairs there are four bed-

rooms, one with a fireplace and three bathrooms. There is a full basement with adequate storage and a fenced in yard. The rectory was totally renovated in 1992.

ST. TIMOTHY'S TODAY

At this time St. Timothy's Church, Roxborough, has two hundred fifty-four active baptized members. There are one hundred and ninety-nine confirmed communicants who for the previous year have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the kingdom of God. Thirty-seven of those members are under the age of sixteen. Last year, there were three baptisms, six persons were confirmed, and one was received by the Bishop. There were two marriages performed and four burial services for members of our congregation.

Currently St. Timothy's Church holds two Sunday services. We have an 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I said service and a 10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist Rite I service (Rite II is used on the first Sunday of the month) with Sunday School and an Adult Forum between the two services. Last year there were 104 Sunday Holy Eucharist services. Average Sunday attendance for the year was 86 persons. On Easter Sunday 2002, we had an attendance at both services of 170.

Other opportunities for worship include Eucharist on Monday evenings, Tuesday mornings, and some Wednesday evenings. We are exploring the inclusion of a Folk Mass either on Saturday or Sunday evening.

Vital to our parish life and the mission of

St. Timothy's are the varied contributions of our dedicated support personnel.

Our Vocational Deacon is actively involved in all aspects of parish life. His participation in worship services, preaching, and assistance with acolytes adds a warm dimension. In particular, he is a welcomed and comforting visitor to those who are hospitalized, in nursing homes, or otherwise shut in.

We have a knowledgeable and talented musician who serves St. Timothy's as organist and choirmaster. Under his direction the choir presents liturgical music which richly enhances worship services.

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The dedicated help of our secretary is greatly appreciated. In just fifteen hours a week she maintains communications, prepares letters and newsletters, and helps to keep the "loose ends" tied together.

The wardens and vestry serve faithfully. They chair standing committees and involve other parishioners in completing committee projects. The present vestry is a comfortable blend of parishioners of long standing, some relatively recent members, and young persons raised in the church. St. Timothy's is regularly represented in the Wissahickon Deanery and Diocesan Convention, in accordance with Diocesan Canons.

CHURCH FINANCE

The present economy – decreased investment returns, increased economic pressure on young families and on those with fixed incomes, and other parish expenses – has changed the pattern of support for church operations.

In the recent past a major portion of yearly expenses was met through congregational contributions, supplemented by investment interest. In 2001, contributions provided about twenty-nine percent of the operating income; the balance was from investments and endowments. As with many churches which in the past relied on large endowments, St. Timothy's needs to encourage more personal stewardship for our own spiritual benefits and for the needs of the parish.

Information concerning recent membership, attendance, and finances is available upon request.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Our Christian Education Program for children and youth takes place on Sundays from September through June between the two Sunday services from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Children may attend either the 8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service with their families and still be able to attend Church School. There is a nursery available for children under the age of four for both instruction during the Church School session or baby sitting during the 10:30 a.m. service. There is a dedicated Church School class-

room furnished and equipped with age appropriate materials, for children ages four through ten. This class uses the Godly Play curriculum. There is a junior high school class for children ages ten through thirteen which uses an adapted Rite 13 curriculum and a senior high school class for students fourteen through eighteen. At the present time we have a small Church School under the direction of ten teachers who each teach part of the year.

Special projects through the year have included a Thanksgiving food collection, a Christmas gathering of new, wrapped gifts for charity, a visit from Bishop Nicholas near St. Nicholas Day, caroling at Kearsley Retirement Residence, an Easter Egg Hunt, and a yearly trip to the Philadelphia Zoo or a museum. Our junior and senior high groups have also prepared meals for Marian's Kitchen, an Outreach project in which parishioners prepare meals which are then distributed to the elderly and infirm through Episcopal Community Services. Each year our Church school students are honored on Youth Sunday in June and are awarded pins for Church School attendance.

Vacation Bible School is conducted for one week in the summer. The program is held at St. Timothy's in collaboration with the other Episcopal parishes of the Twenty-first Ward. Enrollment last year was 45 children. In recent years, the leaders of Vacation Bible School have developed original curricula which emphasize Bible study, crafts and music. VBS also adopts one or more charities to support with mission offerings. These have included the Heifer Project, the Episcopal Diocese of

Guatemala, St. Mary's Respite Center, St. Barnabas Shelter, and the after school program at the Church of the Advocate.

An Adult Forum was started in 2000 between the two Sunday services. The program, conducted by our Vocational Deacon, focuses on an in-depth study of the Bible. There is also a Tuesday morning Bible study led by the Rector after the 9:15 a.m. healing service. A Lenten lecture series is held in conjunction with St. Alban's and St. David's Churches, rotating among the neighboring three sites. Participation averages between thirty and forty people.

ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CHURCH

Many parishioners support parish liturgical life through their dedicated lay ministry. There are twelve licensed chalice bearers and many regular lay readers. Twenty-two dedicated acolytes are trained in the catholic tradition of reverence and faithfulness in serving under close supervision with follow-up training.

The Altar Guild at St. Timothy's is a group of parishioners dedicated to the preparation of the Church for worship, providing for the furnishing and decoration of the Altar, taking reverent care of the appointments and furnishings, and caring for the vestments of the clergy. Such details as dusting, polishing the brasses, arranging flowers, and ordering and caring for supplies are lovingly accomplished by members of the guild.

The Bell Ringers ring the tower chimes before both

Eucharists on Sundays and festivals and at other special times.

The choir at St. Timothy's was started in 1876 as the Men and Boys Choir. Due to changing lifestyles and neighborhood demographics, the choir began admitting females in 1982. The present choir is a highly trained, semi-professional adult choir numbering twelve members. The choir sings at the 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist from September to mid June and at special Lenten and Advent celebrations as well as seasonal Evensong.

The Youth Group meets on Sunday evenings twice a month. The number of participants has fluctuated in the past few years. St. Timothy's serves the youth of the Diocese of Pennsylvania as a sponsoring parish of the National Happening Program. For the past eight years, St. Timothy's has been represented on the Diocesan Youth Council by several of our young people. The Youth Group provides both social activities and opportunities for community service.

The Parish Life Committee is a vibrant and dynamic presence in the parish. The Committee plans and organizes many events annually including an Italian Fest, pot luck suppers, pancake supper, breakfasts, parish picnic, camping retreat, Country French Dinner and others. The Committee is always looking for new ways to expand its ministry in the parish.

The Outreach Committee, in addition to supporting Marian's Kitchen, is involved in local community affairs, including the Eastern Pennsylvania Organizing Project (EPOP). EPOP is a group of community organizations

and faith based institutions dedicated to raising awareness of public issues and effecting changes in the neighborhood. EPOP's current project is the revitalization of the business corridor in Roxborough. The Outreach Committee also participated in the year-end mission giving decisions.

In addition to the organizations at St. Timothy's, the parish supports the following groups:

A representative of St. Timothy's attends the Church Periodical Club. Collections from the Tuesday morning service (augmented by the Church) go toward the support of the CPC and the South American Missionary Society.

Friends in Supplying Help (FISH) was formed in 1969 in conjunction with churches of all religious denominations in the area. Their main functions are supplying emergency food to people in need, and driving people to hospitals, doctor's offices and clinics for treatment. A member of the parish serves as the organization's food coordinator. Members of St. Timothy's respond generously to requests for replenishment of the food cupboard.

Roxborough Memorial Hospital provides nursing consultations each month to senior citizens in our Parish Hall. A chapter of Gambler's Anonymous meets weekly here and our facilities are available to Community College of Philadelphia as needed.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The Roxborough-Manayunk area is in the northwest section of Philadelphia. Residents have an unusual loyalty to their neighborhood, giving it a small town feeling. Family values and a strong sense of belonging characterize the community. The last census showed a mixture of foreign born and second and third generation mixed ethnic heritages, predominately German, Irish, English, Italian, and Polish.

In 1998 the average age of the residents of the area was 40.2 years. The area as a whole had a slightly older population than the rest of the city. The residents are predominately Caucasian homeowners with at least a high school education. The study revealed that sixty-seven percent of the population was white-collar workers. The projected mean family income for 1998 was $51,508. The unemployment figure was below three percent in the 1998 study.

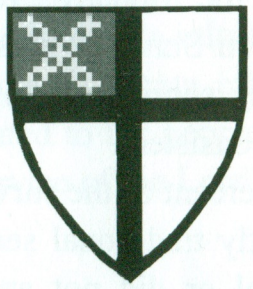
The area offers a variety of small businesses, a hospital, INTERAC (a community mental health & mental retardation organization including senior citizen services), a number of civic associations, a variety of public, parochial and private schools, and good public transportation to downtown Philadelphia and the surrounding suburbs.

During the past twenty years, the Manayunk area has been revitalized. New businesses such as restaurants, art galleries, and specialty shops as well as upscale apartment buildings line Main Street and an historic canal.

Annual events like the First Union Bike Race, Canal Day and the Manayunk Arts Festival have helped give the area a trendy atmosphere. This has resulted in an influx of new residents and rising property values.

The Roxborough-Manayunk area is bordered by the Schuylkill River, Wissahickon Creek, and the lovely Fairmount Park which provide year-round recreational opportunities for hiking, jogging, biking, fishing and horseback riding.

Downtown Philadelphia, only minutes away, offers a world class art museum, orchestra and ballet as well as the new Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. Philadelphia is home to the world class Pennsylvania Convention Center and was host to the Republican National Convention in 2000. Other museums, professional sports teams, the country's oldest zoo, an abundance of historical sites and architectural wonders are readily accessible. Philadelphia is also knows for its many colleges and universities. It is the location for some of the best teaching hospitals in the country and many outstanding medical facilities.



PARISH SURVEY SUMMARY

Of the three hundred surveys mailed, one hundred and three were returned and analyzed. Forty-four percent of those responding were male and fifty-six percent female. Ninety-two percent considered themselves members of St. Timothy's, forty –nine percent for more than twenty years. Twenty percent live less than one mile from the church and forty two percent live one to three miles away. Respondents listed family tradition, liturgy, and fellowship as the primary reasons for attending St. Timothy's. Although most respondents were married (62%) a significant and increasing number are single (31%) and 7% are widowed.

Fifty-four percent indicated that they attend church weekly and twenty-seven percent once or twice a month. About thirty-nine percent prefer the
8:00 a.m. service because it is a said service with less ritual and allows an early start to the day. The most prevalent reasons given by the sixty-one percent who prefer the 10:30 a.m. service were that there is music and the choir, and that the service is a traditional sung Mass. The five percent who attend the Monday evening service do so because they work on Sunday, the service is shorter or they like the healing service. Attendance at the early service is the most consistent.

Forty-seven percent of the survey respondents prefer strongly or mostly traditional services. Thirty-three percent were neutral or did not answer that question. Twenty percent prefer contemporary services.

These results seem to indicate that the congregation is somewhat divided about its liturgical preferences.

There was considerable support for the work of the choir and the importance of music in the liturgy. However, there were strong feelings about the need to increase congregational participation in the service by using more familiar hymns and by not singing important prayers in which the congregation should participate.

On the parish survey, the Christian Education Program was considered one of the most important programs of the church. Some people identified a need for more adult education, especially discussion groups.

The primary parish goal identified was to improve congregational communication. Statistically, this was seen as a greater need that any of the others listed. There was also a strong focus on Youth education and ministry.

In response to the concern about attracting more people to St. Timothy's, many indicated that we need to develop a more congenial atmosphere which promotes a feeling of friendship.

There is a need for social activities for all ages, but especially to attract and retain young families. We need to follow up on visitors and to find out why people have left the church. The priest we select should be respectful of our traditions, communicate effectively, listen well, and be truly dedicated to the people of the parish and to the worship and service of the Lord Jesus Christ.

MOVING FORWARD IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

As St. Timothy's begins this new era of ordained and lay ministry, we look forward to opportunities for growth and the strengthening of Christian values. Our plan is to improve congregational communication and interactions in order to foster an atmosphere of Christian love, acceptance, and community. We want to attract new members and welcome back those who have left.

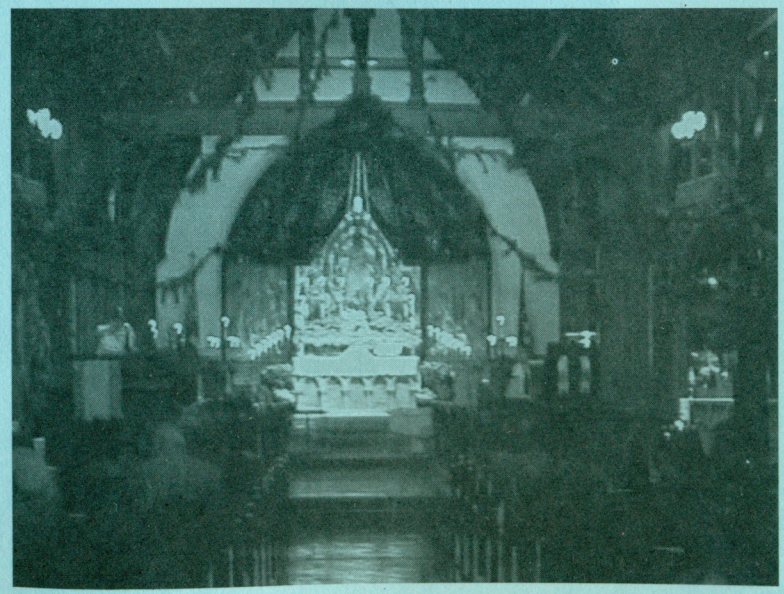
Adult and Youth Christian education programs will be expanded to provide an understanding of our spiritual heritage, a knowledge of the teaching of Jesus Christ, and a strong spiritual guide in the complexities of the modern world.

We need to create more personal and financial commitments to the parish, more planned community outreach programs, and more activities which would help individuals and families feel part of the local church family, the community, and the Body of Christ.

Overall, St. Timothy's has the resources and talents to become a major force in the spiritual and social life of our community. Our commitments to the Lord Jesus Christ, to our parish members, and to our Anglican heritage are major forces in the present and future vitality and growth of the parish.

ABOUT THE DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Diocese of Pennsylvania is the fifth largest diocese numerically (162 congregations, totaling more than 60,000 baptized members), the smallest geographically, pays the sixth highest clergy salaries, and has one of the best clergy retirement plans in the Episcopal Church. Under the leadership of its diocesan, the Rt. Rev. Charles E. Bennison, Jr., the Diocese of Pennsylvania continues to be a dynamic force in the United States and the world today.

Formally organized in 1784, the diocese was built upon the Anglican tradition of its first congregation, Christ Church, "the Nation's Church," founded in 1695. Meeting in Philadelphia after the American Revolution in 1789, the "Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America" united its congregations in the new country under the leadership of William White, the first Bishop of Pennsylvania.

The first autonomous province in communion with the See of Canterbury was created in Philadelphia. This makes our diocese the birthplace of the American Episcopal Church, but also of the Anglican Communion.